



Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

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Egypt

Grain and Feed

Egypt's Wheat Imports Update 2002

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Report Highlights:

Total wheat imports since the beginning of the marketing year (July 2001) are estimated at 6,287,205 MT. Private sector imports of Russian and Ukrainian wheat have increased dramatically.

Includes PSD changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Cairo [EG1], EG

Since the beginning of the marketing year 2001/2002 (July,2001) Egypt purchased a total of 6,287,205 MT of wheat as follows:

	all Sources	From US	US Share
General Authority for Supply Commodities (GASC):	2,900,000 MT	1,755,000 MT	60.52%
Food Industries Holding Company (FIHC):	815,115 MT	555,000 MT	68.09%
Private Sector:	2,572,090 MT	1,197,013 MT	46.54%
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Total:	6,287,205 MT	3,507,013 MT	55.78%

Egypt's total wheat purchases by country of origin are as follows (for private sector imports country of origin data are based on private trade estimates):

Origin	Quantity (000 MT)
U.S:	3,507,013 MT
Australia:	1,165,000 MT
France:	510,115 MT
Canada:	110,000 MT
Turkey:	200,000 MT
Hungary:	154,000 MT
Pakistan:	25,000 MT
Germany:	25,000 MT
Ukraine:	238,324 MT
India:	47,500 MT
Russia:	212,253 MT
Bulgaria:	25,000 MT
Argentina:	48,000 MT
Others:	20,000MT
Grand tot:	6,287,205MT

Private mills have been squeezed by tight credit and a substantial gap between the official exchange rate (LE 4.65/ \$) and the parallel market rate (over LE 5/\$). The import price of Russian & Ukraine wheat has been reported at \$40 per MT below U.S. prices \$ 110 C&F for Russian wheat compared to \$150 for U.S HRW. The Russian protein is 11-11.5 percent on dry basis or 10-11 percent on 12% moisture U.S. basis; about 1% lower protein than U.S. hard red winter . Small shipments from Russia also help cash-stripped importers. The result is that many mills are shifting from high quality U.S. wheat to lower quality wheat for at least some of their needs.